

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 00686 251646Z
ACTION EUR-12

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EO 11652N/A
TAGS: PDIP, PL
SUBJ: FAREWELL CALL ON CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE HENRYK
JABLONSKI, JANUARY 25, 1978

REF: WARSAW 412 AND PREVIOUS

1. I SPENT A VERY PLEASANT HOUR WITH CHAIRMAN JABLONSKI
THIS MORNING, DURING WHICH WE TALKED OF MANY THINGS, IN-
CLUDING LINGUISTIC QUESTIONS IN EUROPE, THE REMARKABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS TO POLISH HISTORY AND CULTURE OF SO MANY
POLISH CITIZENS OF GERMAN AND JEWISH EXTRACTION, AND
JABLONSKI'S
TRAVELS, BOTH AS MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND AS
CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE. THE SUBJECT OF MY WALKING
OUT OF HIS NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION (REFS) DID NOT ARISE.
AFTER AN HOUR, WHEN JABLONSKI SHOWED NO INCLINATION OF
ENDING THE MEETING, I FELT OBLIGED TO TAKE LEAVE OF HIM.

2. THE ONLY OTHER REPORTABLE ITEM IS JABLONSKI'S
MENTION OF THE FACT THAT, AS HE PUT IT, "THIS CATHOLIC
NATION HAS A PROTESTANT AS ITS PRESIDENT." IF I HAD BEEN
AWARE EARLIER THAT JABLONSKI HAD A PROTESTANT BACKGROUND,
I HAD FORGOTTEN IT. HE IS ONE OF A NUMBER OF
LEADERS IN TODAY'S POLAND WHO HAVE PROTESTANT FAMILY
BACKGROUNDS: JAN SZCZEPANSKI, RYSZARD FRELEK, AND ROMUALD
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SPASOWSKI SPRING TO MIND. OF COURSE, AS MEMBERS OF THE
PZPR, JABLONSKI, FRELEK, AND SPASOWSKI ARE OFFICIALLY
ADHERENTS OF ATHEISM; SO FAR AS I KNOW, THAT IS THE
ONLY RELIGION ANY OF THEM PRACTICES. SZCZEPANSKI, ON THE
OTHER HAND, IS AN ACTIVE BELIEVER AND PRACTISING PROTESTANT.

DAVIES

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